



Business Environmental News

ISSUE 14
August 2005

Better for Business, and the Environment

New additions to the Business Environmental Forum

Welcome to Issue 14 of Business Environment News, the newsletter of the York and North Yorkshire Business Environmental Forum.

Contents

- 1** New additions to the team, Environmental Forum Network Meeting
- 2 & 3** Forum Projects, Competition
- 4** The National Parks Project, Carbon Sequestration Project
- 5** National Park green vehicles, Buying a green vehicle
- 6** YHA Lockton, Agripluss Ltd,
- 7** Caravan Park goes Green, Isol8,
- 8** Envirowise help companies maximise profits, Case study on Tele-Products Ltd.
- 9** Positive Planet, Hazardous waste transfer facility opens.
- 10** Is your company a water waster?, Useful links
- 11** Events, Courses, Funding
- 12** Legislation

If you are not already a member of the Forum, why don't you take advantage of this FREE service to keep in touch with the environment around you and reduce your environmental impact?

All you have to do is register on the website or email or telephone us. See below for details.

Contacts:

**Therese Hamill or Owen Daggett
On 01904 656769**

Or email bef@blyny.co.uk

Or write to:

**Business Environmental Forum,
c/o Business Link York and
North Yorkshire, Arabesque House,
Monks Cross Drive, Huntington,
York, YO32 9WU**

Or visit

www.here4greenbusiness.co.uk



The Business Environmental Forum has expanded through the creation of two new posts. Some of you may have met them already but for those of you who haven't, Therese Hamill and Laura Backhouse are the newest members of the Business Environmental Forum team who both joined in April. Therese is the Assistant Support Co-ordinator, providing support for all areas of the Forum's work and Laura is BEF National Parks Project Co-ordinator providing support to businesses in the Dales and Moors National Parks (see page 4 for details on the project).

BEF launches Network Group Meetings

The Business Environmental Forum held its first 'Network Group Meeting' at the Hilton Hotel, in York on Monday 23rd May.

The aim of the group is to bring businesses and organisations from across North Yorkshire together to learn about a particular aspect of Environmental Management and share common queries and problems in an informal networking environment.

The seminar consisted of an introductory presentation by Katie Harvey, Business Environmental Forum Environmental Co-ordinator, covering the different approaches of Environmental Management Systems. A presentation by Andy Leake from Unison Ltd, a company which manufactures tube bending machines in Scarborough, then demonstrated how the Business Environmental Forum has helped them write an Environmental Policy. This was followed by a presentation by John Halsall from Corus Rail Consultancy, a company specialising in railway engineering consultancy and quantity surveying, on how they have implemented the EMS standard ISO 14001.

The Network Group Meetings are open to any business from York or North Yorkshire and are free. We are also looking for companies to host the meetings, so if you have a large meeting/conference room to hold about 30 people, please get in touch. The next meeting will be in September, please visit our website www.here4greenbusiness.co.uk for more details. If you have a particular topic or issue that you would like us to cover at the next Network Group Meeting, or you are able to host a meeting, please let us know. See page 8 for a case study on Tele-Products Ltd. who attended the Network Group Meeting.

Business Environment

York Green Business Club

The 'York Green Business Club', a partnership between the Business Environmental Forum and the Sustainable Development Department of City of York Council, has recently held its second seminar. The meeting proved highly successful as many businesses attended to learn how to adopt more environmentally friendly business practices with a focus on managing waste.

The second meeting was held on July 18th at the Hilton Hotel in York as a breakfast seminar. Speakers talked about waste legislation affecting businesses, how to reduce office waste, in particular paper waste and buying recycled products. The seminar was also used to launch an office paper and confidential paper recycling service in the City which is managed and run by Yorwaste Ltd.

The Club is free for businesses and organisations in York to learn how they can operate in a more environmentally responsible way and save money. The 'Club' runs two seminars a year and future seminar topics will include: Energy Efficiency; Water Efficiency; Supply Chain issues; Packaging Waste; Transport and Sustainable Procurement.

The aim of the Club is to enable businesses to demonstrate their commitment to the environment, to increase the image of the City and ensure it remains a popular and attractive place to visit, work and live. The Club provides an excellent opportunity to network and share good businesses practices, which results in less waste being sent to landfill and less carbon being emitted to the atmosphere.



The next seminar will be held in November 2005, which will focus on Energy Efficiency. **You can keep up to date with developments by visiting the Forum website (www.here4greenbusiness.co.uk) and clicking on Events. To register as a new member of the York Green Business Club please email BEF at bef@blyny.co.uk**

Green Business Support Organisation (GBSO) Project

The regional Green Business Support Organisation (GBSO) project has assisted over 200 businesses across Yorkshire and the Humber to reduce waste and to reduce water and energy consumption, through free environmental consultancy. Funding for the project was secured from Yorkshire Forward by Business in the Community, who are managing the project.

In York and North Yorkshire, the Business Environmental Forum is co-ordinating the project and assisting 70 businesses through third party consultancy. Across



the Region the project will draw to a close at the end of Summer 2005. At the present time final reports are currently being submitted to evaluate how much waste has been diverted from landfill and total reduction in carbon emissions through a reduction in energy consumption.

To keep updated with the progress and results of the project please visit www.here4greenbusiness.co.uk or Business in the Community's website at www.bitc.org.uk

Competition

Method of controlling heating system

T **C**

Turn off to save energy

L

Turn off to save water

T

Email the 3 answers to bef@blyny.co.uk by 30th Sept 2005. Entitle your email 'News Competition' and include your name, name of business / organisation and contact number.

The winner will be notified by 14th October and will receive an environmentally friendly prize up to £20 in value.

Congratulations to the winner of the last competition, which was Anita Simey of Northern College of Acupuncture. Anita won a set of glasses made from recycled bottles.

ntal Forum Projects

Rural Action Project



Throughout the rural, upland and coastal (Objective 2) areas of North Yorkshire, a project similar to the GBSO project has been running to help businesses achieve energy and environmental savings. The project is funded by the European Union and Yorkshire Forward, is managed by Business in the Community and is delivered by BEF and York's Energy Efficiency Advice Centre.

Case study TeleWare Plc

TeleWare plc, a leading supplier of intelligent communications solutions, is proud to have completed its support through the Rural Action project. The project has proven to be a useful and cost effective exercise for TeleWare.

The project consultant, Owen Daggett, worked with Billy Russell, Health & Safety Officer for TeleWare on the environmental performance of TeleWare House, the company's headquarters in Thirsk, North Yorkshire. The aim was to improve the environmental performance of the business. When TeleWare joined the scheme in October 2004, the environmental performance of the business was already good. New IT equipment had been recently installed throughout the headquarters and there was already an understanding and focus on waste separation and recycling where possible.

Through working with the project consultant, a key area of savings identified the scope to improve energy management. The building is spacious and there were large areas where fluorescent lights were left switched on but no desks nearby. The consultant assisted the business in assessing light levels and recommended the removing of fluorescent tubes where appropriate. PC monitor shutdown was very poor at the start of the scheme. It was common

for monitors to be left switched on all day, through lunchtimes, and even throughout the night. A PC shutdown policy has now been introduced by Billy Russell to ensure that all staff assume responsibility and are accountable for the shutdown of their own PC.

Electrical heaters installed under the sinks generated hot water for the Domestic Hot Water services. These were set at a high temperature, which meant that the water was excessively hot when it left the taps. Billy Russell has now reduced the temperature of these heaters, creating more cost effective water heating.

The electrical savings from what might appear to be relatively minor changes have been staggering. TeleWare has seen a reduction in electricity consumption of 27%, and a reduction in associated electricity costs of 29%. This savings has provided significantly important due to the increasing rise in energy prices.

Billy Russell commented "The Rural Action project has proved very useful to us. The savings we have made are very impressive, especially when considering that all of the actions are no cost - meaning that we are seeing immediate savings! We will continue to assess energy usage and try to improve our environmental performance from here on."

To date, 70 businesses have received assistance from a Project Consultant and are now working towards energy efficient cost saving measures. The Project is due to come to a close this year, with final results of cost and energy savings that will be published on our website shortly.

Supporting Businesses Implement Environmental Technologies

From 1st August 2005, the Business Environmental Forum will be delivering a new project that works with businesses to identify energy efficient improvements and install energy efficient technologies. Support will be given through a cash grant of up to £1,500 which the business must match. The project will allow businesses to turn advice into action and benefit in the long term, from lower operating costs and a reduction in their carbon emissions.

The Project Officer will carry out an energy audit within a Forum member business, highlighting areas where energy consumption can be measured and reduced. This will form an action plan for the business to implement improvements and within it the identification of energy efficiency installations. Such installations might include boiler replacements, lighting and heating improvements; insulation; and water reduction controls. As each business is guided through the action plan, it will learn how to formulate an environmental policy and will also receive help on waste reduction initiatives and staff training.

The Project will be delivered by the Forum in conjunction with the Energy Partnership through the York Energy Efficiency Advice Centre.



A panel will meet monthly and will decide on the allocation of grants. The project will assist businesses that are based in rural, upland and coastal (Objective 2) areas of North Yorkshire.

To find out if you qualify please contact the Forum on 01904 656769.



Business Environmental Forum Projects

Business Environmental Forum National Parks Project



Throughout the North York Moors and the Yorkshire Dales National Parks, the Forum is promoting a new service available to SME's. A new three year National Parks project is bringing the work of the Forum out to businesses operating within these special areas.

The National Parks project enables small businesses to access free environmental advice and information. Participating businesses are offered help to identify and reduce their negative environmental impacts.

The Project Co-ordinator, Laura Backhouse offers on site environmental audits focussing on energy, water and waste, as well as help with environmental management. Businesses involved in the project will have access to the Forum

seminars, newsletters and ongoing environmental support.

The National Parks project is funded by the Sustainable Development Fund, which is grant-aided by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) through the North York Moors and Yorkshire Dales National Park Authorities.

If you are a business based within the North York Moors or Yorkshire Dales National Park and are within the boundary of North Yorkshire, why not take advantage of this dedicated service for free and impartial advice.

If you would like to arrange a site visit or for any further information please contact Laura Backhouse on 07789 966783 or email laurab@4sustainable-energy.co.uk

Novel idea to reduce North Yorkshire carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions



With climate change now a hot topic of conversation many businesses are taking an increased interest in reducing their environmental impacts. Key to this is the pledge to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, one of the greenhouse gases produced from the burning of fossil fuels. But when emissions cannot be prevented carbon sequestration is a useful alternative option.

The Local Energy Support Programme (LESP) has been leading the way by reducing their own CO₂ emissions by being more energy efficient. They also offsetting those CO₂ emissions generated by the business, which cannot be avoided through joining a carbon sequestration schemes.

What is carbon sequestration?

Carbon sequestration is the absorption of CO₂ from the atmosphere through green plant photosynthesis. The carbon dioxide is then stored or 'sequestered' as carbon within the stems, branches and roots. Carbon sequestration projects allow businesses and individuals to offset their emissions by investing in the planting of trees throughout the world.

There are a number of different carbon sequestration projects active in the UK. Future Forests is the largest carbon offset company in Europe and claims to have enabled people to offset more than 450,000 tonnes of carbon since their launch in 1997. Such projects are growing in popularity throughout the business sector and raising awareness of climate change issues.

The local perspective

LESP became "Carbon Neutral" through the Future Forests scheme over two years ago but were disappointed to find that there was no local tree planting scheme to support. Noting the potential benefits such a scheme could provide for individuals, businesses and the environment, a project to assess the feasibility of creating new native woodland in North Yorkshire to absorb local CO₂ emissions was set up. It is hoped that there will be public access to any new woodland created.

Funded by the Sustainable Development Fund through the North York Moors National Park, LESP and the Business Environmental Forum are now looking to local businesses for their opinion about the project. Let us know your views on the following:

- Are you interested in offsetting your CO₂ emissions?
- Would a local scheme be more appealing to you and your customers?
- Can you provide an emission baseline for your business?
- Tree planting costs money, what would it be worth to you?

If you would like to comment on this project, or would like to become involved please contact LESP Co-ordinator Lance Saxby on 01904 554406 or email lance@4sustainable-energy.co.uk



North York Moors National Park Authority: Green Vehicles

The North York Moors National Park Authority has received a prestigious Environmental and Sustainable Transport (EAST) Award for its use of green transport. The National Park Authority was runner up in the 'environmental and sustainable fleet' category. The award recognises the Authority's environmental commitment and work towards reducing its impact upon the environment.

Four years ago, the Authority replaced its essential car user allowance for staff with a small fleet of environmentally friendly pool vehicles. This included five cars and a delivery van powered by LPG. Since the end of the lease agreement on these vehicles, this summer, the Authority has bought two Honda Civic IMA's (Integrated Motor Assist), which run on 'dual fuel', petrol and self generated electricity, and two Renault Corsas that run on an 80:20 diesel:biodiesel mix. The Environmental Transport Association (ETA) rated both these models in the top three most environmentally friendly vehicles last year.

Six vehicles for field staff are also powered by biodiesel;biodiesel mix. The four Renault Kangoo vans and a Ford Ranger run on an 80:20 biodiesel mix (recycled oil as apposed to fuel crop). One of the Land Rover's and another Ford Ranger run on 95:5 biodiesel mix. The Park Authority are negotiating with the lease company to run the remaining 3 Land Rovers and 3 Ford Ranger's on biodiesel too. Staff have also been successfully encouraged to car share and travel by bus or bike through the introduction of an incentive scheme that rewards these methods of travel. The Authority is the only National Park Authority approaching an entire fleet of environmentally friendly vehicles.

Andy Wilson, Chief Executive of the National Park Authority commented: "As a National Park Authority we feel it is important to put our commitment

behind protection of the environment and this includes more environmentally friendly transport options. We are delighted that our efforts have been recognised by this national award, demonstrating that greener transport is a viable option for us all."

Paul McBride, Managing Editor of the EAST Journal added: "The North York Moors National Park Authority has proven that size is not instrumental in achieving sustainability."

For more information on the National Park Authorities vehicle fleet contact Rachel Wood the Sustainable Development Officer on 01439 770657.



Changing your car to green?

Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG)

Both petrol and diesel powered cars can be converted, although changing petrol car is cheaper and easier. At the moment it is only commercially viable to convert larger diesel engines. The golden rule is – if you can have either a diesel or a petrol engine, buy a petrol vehicle and convert it to LPG. A typical, quality petrol engine conversion costs about £1,500- £1,800 depending on the car, and your payback will be about 3 years, depending on your mileage. LPG vehicles also qualify for cheaper road tax.

For example: if you drive 10,000 miles each year and have a fuel consumption of 30 miles per gallon; you will use 1513 litres of fuel costing about £1300. On LPG you would get about 27 miles per gallon and need 1681 liters; at a cost of £655.

It is essential that you use a fully trained LPG specialist for the work. Compared with petrol, LPG vehicles emit about 20% less CO₂. While LPG emits similar levels of CO₂ to diesel, one diesel car is equivalent to 20 LPG cars with regard to nitrogen oxides (NO_x).

Check out the Energy Saving Trust website to access information and advice about cleaner vehicles, fleets & travel plans. Go to <http://www.est.org.uk/fleet/> or call on 0845 602 1425. For more information about converting to LPG, visit www.boostlpg.co.uk

Biodiesel

Biodiesel is a diesel fuel replacement made from vegetable oil. This can be derived from many plants, including canola, soya, rapeseed and even hemp. Vegetable oils and waste fats must first be 're-processed' by 'trans-esterification' before they can be burned in an unmodified compression ignition engine. At the moment you cannot use bio-diesel in petrol cars.

Biodiesel is fully biodegradable after 21 days, which makes it ideal for use in environmentally sensitive areas, and when combusted releases less sulphur, carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and particulates than conventional diesel. The drawbacks to using biodiesel are few but include increased nitrogen oxide emissions, which can be countered by fitting a Denox catalytic converter. Also there can be the problem that rubber parts in the fuel delivery system may dissolve because Bio-diesel is a very active solvent, so it is very important to check with your car manufacturer before using bio-diesel.

A few innovative garages stock the fuel, and the location of these can be found on the internet at www.biodieselfillingstations.co.uk

For more information see www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/biodiesel.htm, www.eurobiodiesel.com, <http://www.bio-power.co.uk/faq.htm>, <http://www.ilovesponge.com/spongecars/diesel/diesel.htm> Visit www.lowimpact.org.uk for courses.

Electric

Due to their limited range, the electric cars currently available are only really likely to be of interest to those restricted to city driving. However, developments such as hybrid engines, as well as better-performing pure electric engines, should mean that this long-heralded transport option gains wider acceptance.

For more information, visit www.evuk.co.uk. For general information about cleaner fuel technologies and how to switch, visit www.transportenergy.co.uk. If you're buying a new car, consult the Environmental Transport Association's Car Buyer's Guide for ratings on the cleanest cars: Telephone 0800 212 810, or visit www.eta.co.uk

Building Sustainably: YHA'S First Green Youth Hostel

The Youth Hostels Association has created the UK's first 'Eco-friendly' Youth Hostel at Lockton, near Pickering.

YHA Lockton has been given a £300,000 ecologically sound revamp, using the expertise of Yorkshire based environmental architecture specialists, Eco Arc through a project led by the Youth Hostels Association and North York Moors National Park Authority. DEFRA has also helped fund the project through its Rural Enterprise Scheme.

Wherever possible the YHA has added sustainable features to help minimise the environmental impact of tourists. Among the new features are showers heated by solar panels on the roof, a dry compost toilet and a system which harvests rainwater and other 'grey' water to use to flush toilets. The building is insulated using sheep's wool and the new extension also has a living Sedum roof, the foliage of which will also provide a habitat for local wildlife as well as adding extra insulation.

Located in the old village school YHA Lockton has been extended to include new showers and a larger kitchen and dining area. The building has also been made fully accessible for disabled visitors.

Simon Ainley, YHA's regional manager said: "Tourism's impact on the environment is huge, but it has the potential to be a great educator. This area of Yorkshire attracts visitors from far and wide and this building will deliver several aims. It helps to reduce the impact our visitors make on the environment and helps to educate them about the issues, offering advice on how they can be more environmentally friendly in their everyday

lives. For other accommodation providers it offers a blueprint to enable them to 'green' their properties."

Check out the Business Environment Forum's website www.here4greenbusiness.co.uk for more information on sustainable design. The Forum hopes to organise a Sustainable Buildings Seminar in the near future. Keep an eye on the events page of the website for more details.



Agriplass Ltd Helping Farmers Recycling

A forward thinking East Cleveland farmer has tapped into a unique and practical business idea that provides fellow farmers with a solution to forthcoming EU legislation around the disposal of farm plastic waste.

David Brown, who has been farm manager at High Waupley Farm in Easington, Saltburn for 22 years, has set up Agriplass Ltd. The business collects clean and dry farm plastic waste such as silage wrap, fertiliser bags, seed bags and spray containers from farms across the Tees Valley, North Yorkshire, County Durham, and South Yorkshire areas. Mr Brown has also franchised the business and business has had a number of farmers all over the country interested in the idea.

The farmers can sign up for the scheme and they pay by the units of plastic they need collecting e.g. 600 silage wraps. The farmers have to work out generally how much plastic they will need collected and then pay on registration. As Mr Brown pointed out by working how much plastic waste they will have over a year, it actually helps the farmer realise how much waste they are producing and makes them think about ways they can reduce it.

Agriplass has spent a number of months finding suitable outlets for all the different types of plastic that they encounter on the farms. One of the outlets is Econoplas, a Scarborough based company which takes plastic for recycling to use to produce drainage blocks. Agriplass aims to recycle as much of the plastic, as possible. It is very important that Mr Brown is consulted on how to store the plastic for collection, as each outlet has different requirements for the condition of the plastic they take.

Collections will vary depending on the farm enterprise e.g. Fertiliser bags will probably be collected on a couple of occasions per year to fit in with loads and cropping. Prices for these services can be obtained on request.

David and his wife Bridget began to develop the idea for the business when they became aware of new EU regulations which is due to come into force later this year requiring farm plastic waste to be disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner.

Farms that enrol on the scheme will be provided with the relevant paper work to show when and where the plastic has gone so that all of their waste is accounted

for, in line with the new regulations.

David Brown said "With the new legislation regarding the disposal of farm waste plastics looming upon us, we realised there was a need and a potential business opportunity in tackling this ever-increasing problem. We are a farming family and as such are in the best position to help explain to fellow farmers the consequences of the new legislation as we understand their business and their individual needs,".

The North York Moors National Park Authority has given the business a grant of £10,000 via the Sustainable Development Fund to help the business get up and running. David has bought a Nissan pickup towing a custom built 14 foot tipping box trailer built by MA Fabrications from Pickering. Agriplass Ltd has also had support from DEFRA, the Environment Agency, as well as Business Link who have provided hands on support and guidance since the idea came to fruition.

For further information on Agriplass Ltd or to register on the scheme contact David Brown on Tel: (01287) 640286 or Email: d.brown62@ntlworld.com. For more information on the new Farm Waste Legislation go to <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/topics/agwaste.htm>



Sharing experiences: Caravan Park goes Green



Lebberston Touring Park, situated between Filey and Scarborough, holds a David Bellamy Gold Conservation Award. This is an excellent example of how a caravan park can achieve good environmental performance, both through simple measures and some more advanced ideas.

In order to achieve this status, Lebberston Touring Park underwent significant environmental improvements. Low energy bulbs are used throughout the park. In addition to this, photocells are used in the toilet block to ensure that lights are only switched on when needed. Recycling bins are provided for paper, cans, glass and plastic bottles, and all customers are informed about these bins and encourage to use them.

Water, one of the biggest costs to the business, has been assessed, and excess use has been reduced through the installation of push taps for both hot and cold water and showers in the toilet blocks. Hippo bags have been installed in all of the cisterns to reduce flush volumes. These water measures have produced a significant effect. The Park had 1000 extra nights on occupancy over a year (an increase of 20%) but with very little increase in water consumption (in the region of 3%). Water is also collected off a large shed roof which is used in warmer months to water bedding plants and new shrubs.

The Park created a nature area, which in the long term they hope to develop into a wildlife haven. Over 300 deciduous trees have been planted in this area.

The owners of the business, Mark and Jane Bozeat, had the following to say: "The David Bellamy Award has been an extremely useful exercise for us. It's a nationally recognized award scheme that lets the public know that we are an environmentally friendly place to stay. We have already learnt a lot through the scheme, and with a proposed redevelopment of the main building on the park, we are installing a rainwater harvesting system, that will reduce water consumption, and considering installing wind and solar hot water systems. The York & North Yorkshire Business Environmental Forum have supported us in our efforts to improve our environmental awareness."

The owners continued: "We suggest that all holiday home parks consider assessing their environmental performance and try to achieve an award status for their park."

For more information on environmental awards for holiday parks, visit www.davidbellamyconservation.org.uk or contact the Business Environmental Forum.

Solutions to Waste Problems: Isol8 – the wide-spectrum multi-purpose absorbent



Isol8 is a wide-spectrum multi-purpose absorbent and is effective with lubrication oil - hydraulic oil - all paints - petrol - diesel - grease - anti-freeze - acids - alkalines - liquid fats - water - body fluids - Saving time and money! And is environmentally friendly, carefully made from renewable resources, organic and biodegradable.

Safety in every workplace is vital. No-one can afford the expense, time or human costs of injuries and accidents caused by spills. There is also the issue of more and more legislation coming into force which deals with the storing and disposal of oil (see back page) and chemicals. Isol8 has been used exclusively on the Isle of Man TT track for the last 5 years and has now gained approval for all official UK motorcycle events.

Key Facts:

Because Isol8 is highly concentrated, you need much less than you would normally use with conventional (clay) granules; in fact, a 1.3kg bag of Isol8 can do the same job as 30ltr of granules and works three times faster! It is so absorbent; it requires only 170 Kg of Isol8 to absorb 1,000 Ltrs of oil, whereas it can take 3,200 Kg of standard clay granules to do the same job! – Consider the reduction in disposal costs!

- It is lightweight and packed 5 bags to a case, making it ideal to distribute, and dramatically reduces transport, handling and storage costs.
- It is safe to use, with a neutral ph, non-abrasive, non-corrosive, is safe to dispense by hand, and is non-slip underfoot
- It is fast-acting, clearing spills in seconds.

Isol8 is manufactured by Dainton Ltd, a dynamic young business in Ripon, North Yorkshire, and they have recently embarked upon a series of innovative product developments utilising the benefits of Isol8 for a number of key industrial and environmental situations.

Current users of Isol8 include vehicle servicing and preparation companies, engineering companies, food and drink manufacturing companies, emergency services, transport providers, with customers including the Environment Agency, County Councils, North Yorkshire Fire Brigade, Wynn's Oils, Unipart, Aluline, and Pirtek.

For more information please contact IS018 at sales@dainton.ltd.uk, tel: 01765 605 046, www.isol8.co.uk

Yorkshire Businesses Urged to Stop Letting Profits go to Waste

Companies in North Yorkshire could soon be seeing pound signs thanks to a new online savings calculator that allows them to discover the potential savings of cutting down on waste.

Launched by government-funded programme Envirowise, the free savings calculator - www.maximiseprofit.org.uk - is part of a campaign to encourage office-based businesses to put profit back into the business rather than seeing it wasting away. Businesses simply input a few basic details into the calculator to reveal what sort of cost savings they could make on paper, ink, waste disposal, water, heating and transport.

The user-friendly guidance provides businesses with straightforward, affordable ways to reduce waste. It also includes information on how to arrange a free, confidential visit from an Envirowise expert to identify low cost, high value solutions and help get a waste minimisation programme started.

Envirowise Regional Manager Elin Crebbin says: "Since 1994 Envirowise has helped UK businesses save over £1 billion. Our experience has shown that waste costs can be reduced by up to 1 per cent of turnover simply by putting in place simple, no cost or low cost measures."

Businesses can also get support from Envirowise to help deal with two important pieces of forthcoming legislation – the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and Reduction of Use of Certain Hazardous Substances (RoHS) Directives which are likely to come into place in January 2006. These are set to have a significant impact on the way companies operate, especially those in the electronics sector and their suppliers.

Elin says "With businesses' environmental performance increasingly under scrutiny – local companies stand to gain in terms of reputation and improved customer relationships, as well as financially,".

To find out how much money your business could save by reducing waste and how to get started; visit www.maximiseprofit.org.uk or call the Environment and Energy Helpline on 0800 585 794.

For more information on WEEE and RoHS – and to download an action guide for your business - visit www.envirowise.gov.uk

Tele-Products achieve ISO 14001 after attending Forum Network Meeting

The Business Environmental Forum Network Meeting on the 23rd May focused on Environmental Management Systems. Tele-Products Ltd, a company specialising in manufacturing test equipment for use in the telecom industry and health and safety industries, attended, to find out about this important subject. Tele-Products Ltd. have found that they are under increasing pressure from suppliers as to whether the company had ISO 14001 or ISO 9001 accreditations. The presentations and general discussions held at the meeting helped the business with some questions they had about EMS, and they were surprised to see how easily financial savings could be achieved from simple environmental actions.

With new enthusiasm, environmental improvements were tackled at Tele-Products Ltd. The business was already performing well, with full recycling of paper, cardboard and any plastics. However, the issue of energy usage had been neglected and action points were identified.



Large cathode ray tube monitors are now in the process of been replaced with flat screen monitors, reducing energy usage by a half. All PCs and monitors are now switched off when not in use. With the help of an outside consultancy, CQS, who specialise in implementing ISO 14001 and ISO 9001, lighting was assessed, and a lighting shutdown policy has been developed, along with a heating shutdown in summer.

With the help of CQS, Tele-Products Ltd. achieved both the ISO accreditations within 30 days, an impressive achievement considering that it can take some businesses 18 months to achieve this.

The company are also looking at how they are going to deal with the WEEE and RoHS legislations as they manufacture and supply equipment for the telecom industry, and products for the Health & Safety sector e.g. Portable Appliance Testing, Anti RSI (Repetitive Strain Injury) Products and Noise Measurement equipment.

Positive Planet Launch Revolutionary New Solar Systems

There is a powerful drive to move British industry towards greener energy sources. From local responsibilities to the Kyoto Agreement pressure is already being put on industry to enforce this. Alan Leadbeater, Director of Positive Planet says, "Dependency on fossil fuels means we are dependent on finite resources and the cost of these resources will only increase and the incentives for alternative power supplies will soar." Through the use of solar thermal systems you can reduce the amount of energy you need to heat your hot water system.

Positive Planet is leading the way for British companies in providing renewable energy technology. One of the solar thermal systems currently available, this technology is ideal for residential properties, commercial buildings, farming, leisure centres and community projects. Currently undergoing preliminary projects with Yorkshire Housing, Positive Planet have already established their support for the local communities and they hope to be able to highlight the benefits in communities throughout the UK.

There is £10 million pounds of funding through the Clear Skies Programme exclusively for Renewable Energy Installations into homes and not-for-profit organisations. The Positive Planet's thermal solar panels have been specifically designed to service the UK and Northern European energy requirements with an efficient and cost effective method of heating water throughout the year. Uses include providing hot water for staff toilets, industrial processes, swimming pools or fish farms, and the unique technology integrates seamlessly into any existing hot water system, or easily forms part of a new installation.

Alan goes on to say, "The UK has been significantly behind the rest of Europe for



solar adaptation and with this technology the argument that "solar energy requires all year round sun" is outdated. Positive Planet presents an ideal opportunity for companies and householders to contribute to the renewable energy drive whilst saving money through government incentives and long term savings from free hot water!"

For more information contact: Alan Leadbeater, Director, Positive Planet Ltd Tel: 01904 561519 Email: alan@positiveplanet.co.uk or visit www.positiveplanet.co.uk

Hazardous Waste Transfer Facility Opens for Business

The doors have recently opened on arguably the UK's most advanced hazardous waste transfer facility, run by independent operator, BCB Environmental Management Ltd.

Based in Tockwith near York, the 179,000 square feet site exceeds stringent Integrated Pollution Prevention And Control (IPPC) Standards and is geared up to accept virtually every type of hazardous and difficult waste for segregation and ultimate transfer for safe and ethical disposal.

The indoor storage facilities have been designed with zero emissions in mind and comprise a 29,000 square feet floor treated with Tarmac's Densiphalt, which provides a seamless and non-porous surface with enhanced chemical resistance. To deal with potential air emissions, innovative plans are nearing completion for a negative pressure extraction system that scrubs out undesirable waste emissions, when triggered by an airlock fitted to the door. This will create a unique environment for transferring small drums to larger containers as well as shredding and crushing of old drums.

On the technology front, BCB have surpassed anything previously seen within this sector of the waste transfer industry, reflecting substantial financial investment.



This includes an 8 cam digital security system designed to read vehicle number plates on arrival at the weighbridge, an integrated Wide Area Network connection with BCB's Manchester head office and high performance wireless technology throughout the site. Significantly, technology is used to make the process of waste control fool proof. An electronic control system enables the precise location, movement and history of any container to be accurately monitored at every stage.

BCB also boasts attainment of a 60% recycling rate on all waste materials going through the site, with solvents being recovered for use as secondary fuels and where possible water based materials being used within composting processes.

Phil Boardman, Managing Director, states:

"When you consider that 70% of our volume has traditionally come from other waste companies, some with their own transfer stations, it becomes apparent how BCB is viewed within the industry. We offer total environmental compliance and therefore complete peace of mind for clients. BCB are set up to collect bulk containers nationally from any site and the unrivalled efficiency and Best Practice that we have built into our process makes us an extremely competitive force within the marketplace. "

Is your company a water waster?

Every year, companies get through a vast amount of water on day to day essentials like catering and washrooms.

Developing a water management action plan:

- **Identify a water management champion and involve staff.** Appoint a senior person to be made responsible for looking after water management and driving through the improvements. Staff involvement is also useful in generating water saving ideas.
- **Construct a site water balance: review costs, use and discharges** - look at bills to identify how much you pay in standing charges for water and waste water and their unit costs. Try plotting on a graph your office's annual water use, over three or four years to see if there is an increasing trend.
- **Set targets for improvement** - benchmarking helps to see where you stand in comparison to others. Water use (litres/billing period) / Number of staff x number of operational days in the billing period.

Benchmark figures, provided by the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) for water use in offices

Better than average	10-20 litres/person/day
Good practice	5-9 litres/person/day
Best practice	below 5 litres/person/day

- **Devise a plan for improvements** - review your needs and available resources, decide what you want to achieve and how you are going to do it. Set targets that are achievable - you can always review them later. Decide how you are going to report on your progress.
- **Achieve your targets** - Remember if it's not metered, it can't be managed!
- **Report the outcome** - demonstrate commitment and help communicate your achievements to the rest of the company.
- **Repeat the cycle** - for savings to be sustained the water saving measures and fittings adopted need to be maintained and looked after. Repeat the cycle of monitoring, reviewing and target setting to ensure that water and financial savings are not lost.

For more information and support:

- The Environment Agency covers a number of water issues which includes how to save it! Click on www.environmentagency.gov.uk/subjects/waterres/?lang=_e
- Envirowise has its own Water Account Website which offers advice on how to take the first steps to improving your water management and includes downloadable spreadsheet to help monitor water use. Visit www.wateraccount.envirowise.org.uk/water/index.cfm
- **Contact the Business Environmental Forum for more information and for free water saving devices for your toilets.**

Useful Links

The Environment Hub Website

The Environment Hub is a fast, accessible route to a library of quality assured environmental information. It has tools and features that can be optimised for your organisation. Topics include energy, water, environmental management systems and Cooperate Social Responsibility. The Environment Hub is managed by the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Environment Forum (YHREF) and is funded by Yorkshire Forward.

To find out more visit www.yhub.org.uk or contact Sonia Mullineux on sonia@yhref.org.uk

Help for Farmers to locate Recycling Facilities

A website to help farmers locate recycling facilities has been launched and waste management companies are being asked to register their services. The site, www.wasterecycling.org.uk has been set up by the Agricultural Waste Stakeholder's Forum ahead of changes in laws for farm waste due in the Autumn. The changes will include a ban on the burying of waste without a landfill permit, as well as stricter controls on the burning of farm wastes.

The Worldwide Freecycle Network

The Network is open to all cities and to all individuals who want to 'recycle' that special something rather than throw it away. Whether it's a chair, a fax machine, piano or an old door, feel free to post it. Or maybe you're looking to acquire something yourself? One constraint: everything posted must be free. There are networks for Harrogate, Sheffield, Barnsley, Bradford, Huddersfield, Hull, and Leeds. Membership is free.

Click on www.freecycle.org for more information.

The Water Regulations Advisory Scheme

The Water Regulations Advisory Scheme
The website includes a unique reference directory of water fittings, materials and appliances approved for use on the UK Water Supply System by the Water Regulations Advisory Scheme and the Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. The Site also includes an approved Water Industry Plumbers Scheme which is funded by the Water Industry and is free of charge to participating plumbers.

For more information visit www.wras.co.uk

Recycling Directory on Business Environmental Forum's website

The Business Environmental Forum is hoping to provide a recycling directory for companies. The Recycling Directory will include information on companies which collect materials such as paper, wood, cardboard, plastic, etc for recycling.

Keep an eye on the website for more details www.here4greenbusiness.co.uk

Events

Business Environmental Forum Events

- Environmental Forum Network Meeting on 5th October 2005 at RR Donnellys, near Knaresborough, limited places
- WEEE Seminars in January 2006 at Scarborough and Harrogate.
- York Green Business Club in November 2005.

Please visit the Forum website www.here4greenbusiness.co.uk and click on Events to view our updated seminar and event programme for 2005. Alternatively contact the Forum on 01904 656769.

Energy 2005 Event, 7th and 8th September 2005 National Motorcycle Museum, Birmingham

Energy 2005 focuses solely on energy procurement, energy management and energy efficiency. Alongside the conference there will be ESTA workshops and seminars covering vital energy and environmental issues. Topics of conferences / sessions will include:

- Save water, save costs - treating water with respect
- See the light - reduce costs by design, replacement and management
- Energy saving techniques.

Click on www.energy2005exhibition.co.uk for more information.

WEEE and RoHS Profit Through Compliance Seminar, 7th September 2005 Moat House Hotel, York

Envirowise are running a free WEEE and RoHS seminar in York to help businesses decide the how best to comply and how this can improve your company's competitiveness. The seminar aim to give you: A detailed breakdown of the directives; All the latest information; An opportunity to question the Government and the Environment Agency about the Directives; Practical advice and how to save money to your business through compliance.

For more details contact Luke Allen on 01635 280430 or email luke.allen@envirowise.gov.uk or visit www.envirowise.gov.uk and go to events.

RESOURCE05, Building Research Establishment Event, 13th-15th September 2005 BRE's conference building, Watford

The Building Research Establishment's (BRE) Resource05 is the renewable energy and low carbon technologies conference and exhibition for domestic buildings, non-domestic buildings and communities. The three day programme of seminars and workshops will review the latest low carbon technologies and demonstrate how they can be integrated into buildings.

For more information, or to register or to exhibit, visit www.resource05.com.

Managing Food Waste and Extracting Value Added Products from Waste Conference, 22nd Sept 2005 Waterton Park Hotel, Wakefield

The Food Waste Conference will address bacteriological characterisation, composting, sampling, and toxin identification. The subject matter will be relevant to manufacturers, local authorities and waste companies alike.

Contact Frances Lister, The Food Chain CIC, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT. Tel: 0113 343 7593 or click on www.foodchaincic.com for more details.

Envirenergy Yorkshire and the Humber Event, 27th September 2005 Royal Armouries Museum, Leeds

Envirenergy Yorkshire and the Humber is the region's annual energy and environment conference and exhibition sponsored by Yorkshire Forward. The event takes the format of a range of presentations on a number of leading topics, running alongside a comprehensive exhibition. This year we are covering such topics as Energy from Waste and Constructing for Energy Efficiency.

Click on www.envirenergy.org.uk for more information.

A City of the Future – Can it be truly Sustainable? Conference, 6th October 2005 Central Science Laboratory (CSL), nr York

The agenda will cover the following topics with high-profile speakers presenting the latest thinking in the key areas of:

- Having a strategic vision
- Planning, architecture and construction
- Energy and transport
- Technology
- Economic self-sufficiency and community development
- Personal responsibility.

For more information contact Anna Bialkowska on 01904 561442 or email ab@denisonstill.com or visit the website www.denisonstill.com for latest information.

Courses

Solar Domestic Hot Water (SDHW) Installers' Course 2005 Bedford

A new BPEC accredited course for the installation of Solar Domestic Hot Water (SDHW) systems is now on offer at Bedford College. The course is aimed at qualified or experienced heating engineers / plumbers. Course duration is 3-4 days.

Further information can be obtained from enquiries@bedford.ac.uk or 0800 074 0234.

City and Guilds Course 'Solar Electrical Installation for Professionals' 26th-30th September 2005 The Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT), Mid Wales.

The new course is intended for qualified electricians who wish to install grid connected Photovoltaic (PV) systems onto a domestic dwelling. Participants will receive the City and Guilds certificate in installing domestic photovoltaic systems 2372.

For further information visit www.cat.org.uk or to book a place, email courses@cat.org.uk or ring 01654 705981.

A one-day introduction to Strawbale Building, 30th September 2005 Heckmondwike, West Yorkshire

Practical experience in building with straw also with training in the application of clay and lime plasters. Cost £65 including a hearty lunch.

To book places on the course please contact: Womersleys Associates Ltd., Walkley Lane, Heckmondwike, WF16 0PG. Tel: 01924 400 651 email: markwomersley@aol.com

Funding

Energy Efficient Technologies

A new grant support project that will help businesses identify energy efficient improvements and install energy efficient technologies will be launched on 1st August. Support will be given through consultancy advice on energy reduction and a cash grant of up to £1,500 per business will allow businesses to turn advice into action through installing new energy efficient measures. The Project is delivered and managed by The Business Environmental Forum. The project will assist small to medium sized businesses that are based in rural, upland and coastal (Objective 2) areas of North Yorkshire.

To find out if you qualify, please contact the Forum on 01904 656769.

Enhanced Capital Allowance Scheme

Are you replacing or buying some new equipment? If you choose an energy efficient model, you will be able to claim 100% first year capital allowance. Businesses can write off the whole cost of their investment against their taxable profits of the period during which they make the investment. This can deliver a helpful cash flow boost and shortened pay back period. The scheme also covers water conservation plant and machinery and low carbon dioxide emission cars.

To find out which technology is included and further information, visit www.eca.gov.uk

Legislation

Notes on the delay of WEEE and ROHS

Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) announced in April/ May that implementation of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and Restriction of User of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (ROHS) Directives will be delayed until January 2006. The Government was aiming to transpose the European Directive into UK law by the end of Summer 2005, however, the delay has been welcomed by businesses, although many remain concerned that the laws will come into effect at a peak time for electrical retailers.

For more information visit

<http://www.dti.gov.uk/sustainability/weee/index.htm>

Waste Management Licensing (Amendment and Related Provisions) Regulations 2005

The new Waste Management Licensing (Amendment and Related Provision) (England and Wales) Regulations 2005 come into effect from 1st July 2005. Changes under the new regulatory framework include:

- land treatment for agricultural benefit or ecological improvement
 - storage and spreading of sludge
 - recovery operations at water and sewage treatment works
 - storage and composting of biodegradable waste
- Operators who undertake activities which are currently exempt but may require a waste management licence should register with the Environment Agency before 1st October 2005.

Further information on the amendments can be accessed at www.hms.gov.uk

For more information please visit www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Hazardous Waste Regulations Update

On the 16th July 2004 the co-disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste was stopped under the Landfill Regulations 2002. The regulations also require that hazardous waste (which can be identified in the European Waste Catalogue) has to be pre-treated to reduce the quantity and hazard before it is landfilled.

In order to determine if you handle hazardous waste, consult the European Waste Catalogue which has reclassified wastes and lists them grouped according to industries and processes and is marked by an asterisk. Defra has confirmed:

- The Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC) for "monolithic waste" has come into force on 16 July 2005.
- the standard for physical stability of monolithic waste going to landfill
- a limit on the level of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in inert waste to be landfilled
- the responsibilities of waste producers in characterising waste destined for landfill
- amendment of the existing landfill regulations so that they no longer apply to disposal of non-hazardous wet dredgings in certain circumstances
- whole and shredded tyres must not be landfilled from July 16 2006 liquid waste can no longer be accepted at non-hazardous waste landfills from 30 October 2007

- all non-hazardous wastes will have to be pre-treated prior to landfill from 30 October 2007.

A full summary of Defra's decisions following the consultation is available at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/landfillregs-rev/index.htm>.

For further help and advice, companies can seek information from:

- The Environmental Services Association <http://www.esauk.org/>
- Environment Agency on 08708 506 506, www.environment-agency.gov.uk
- <http://www.hazardouswaste.org.uk/>
- Envirowise on 0800 585794 or visit www.envirowise.gov.uk
- The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) visit www.hse.gov.uk/waste/index

Regulations for the storage of oil

Each year more than 5000 oil pollution incidents are reported to the Environment Agency - nearly 14 every day. The final part of the Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (England) Regulations 2001 comes into force on 1 September 2005 and will bring under regulation all non exempt sites that have not been covered earlier. The rules apply to anyone storing more than 200 litres of oil in a container outside and above ground at an industrial, commercial or institutional site or more than 3500 at a single domestic site. All types of oil - with the exception of waste mineral oil (which is covered by other legislation) - are covered by the rules, including petrol, diesel, vegetable, synthetic and mineral oil.

For more information visit http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/1084592/1084595/1084604/?version=1&lang=_e

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act

Local authorities have gained greater powers to tackle fly-tipping and litter, as the first raft of measures in the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act comes into force. Since June 2005, fly-tipping is an arrestable offence. Those caught illegally dumping waste will also no longer be able to use the defence of 'acting under employer's instructions'. The majority of the remaining measures of the Act is hoped to be brought into force by April 2006.

Further information and an interim guidance for measures is available on the Defra website at

www.defra.gov.uk/environment/localenv/leqbill/index

EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive

Company owners and private householders need to start preparing for new European legislation on energy efficiency. The EU energy performance of buildings directive is due to come into force in January 2006, which will require all building owners to produce an energy performance certificate when a building is sold, refurbished or put under a new lease. The main requirement is for buildings to be given an energy efficiency rating. The government may apply to the EU for an introduction of the legislation, from 2006 until 2009.

For more information see

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/energy/internet/ecbuildings.htm>

Whilst the Y&NYBEF publishes BE News in good faith and takes care to check the accuracy of the information contained in each issue the Forum cannot accept responsibility for information derived from other sources or for action taken by businesses in response to that information.



The York & North Yorkshire Business Environmental Forum is generously supported by:

- Business Link York & North Yorkshire • Business in the Community • City of York Council • Denison Till •
- Energy Efficiency Advice Centre • Environment Agency • Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber •
- Hambleton District Council • Harrogate Borough Council • Nestle • North Yorkshire County Council
- Richmondshire District Council • Scarborough Borough Council • Science City York •
- University of York • Yorkshire Forward • Yorwaste Ltd •

PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH

If you have any comments to make about this Newsletter or need ENVIRONMENTAL ADVICE

please contact THERESA HAMILL or OWEN DAGGETT

at: e-mail: bef@blyny.co.uk

or on-line at: www.here4greenbusiness.co.uk or telephone 01904 656769.